



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Milwaukee County

October 6, 2009

Supervisor Lee Holloway
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 201
901 North Ninth Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Supervisor Holloway:

We write in reference to the comments you made before the Milwaukee County Board's Finance and Audit Committee on October 5, 2009. This meeting was the initial consideration of the 2010 County budget and provided an opportunity to set a positive tone as we embark on what is admittedly a difficult financial challenge given the structural fiscal imbalance the county is facing.

Instead you chose to take the low road.

Your comparison of the County Executive to a member of the Ku Klux Klan was a deplorable way to begin the discussion of important policy issues facing the County. It displayed a lack of civility and an absence of common sense. While your comments were perhaps designed to ignite racial animosity they were divorced from reality. Your attempt to portray the County Executive's budget as harmful to inner-city residents was improper. To cite transit as one example -- an issue that you have championed -- the County Executive choose to maintain all existing Milwaukee Country Transit System bus routes, provide \$18 million in levy support, expanded free rides to Paratransit riders and create a new bus rapid transit line.

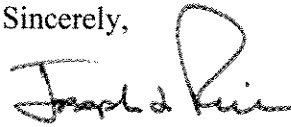
Any fair-minded person viewing the proposed budget would agree that the County Executive has made a fiscally responsible effort to fund core services without raising taxes. Your inference that it was the product of racial animus is patently false.

Your decision to inject race politics into the budget debate was wholly inappropriate and set exactly the wrong tone. Your comments serve to further erode the credibility and trust that the public has in the Milwaukee County Board.

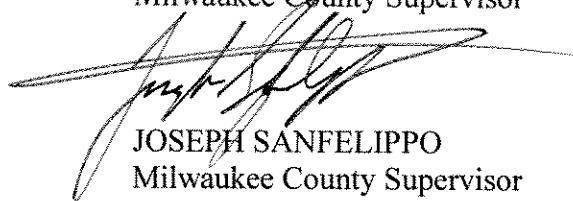
Supervisor Lee Holloway
October 6, 2009
Page 2

We urge you to issue a prompt apology to the County Executive and the people of Milwaukee County for your unfortunate comments and to refrain from similar intemperate remarks in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph A. Rice".

JOSEPH A. RICE
Milwaukee County Supervisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Sanfelippo".

JOSEPH SANFELIPPO
Milwaukee County Supervisor